

*Per our own  
Lance***City of Broomfield**

NUMBER SIX GARDEN OFFICE CENTER • BROOMFIELD COLORADO 80020 • PHONE (303) 469-3301

April 25, 1988



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Mr. Albert E. Whiteman  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Rocky Flats Area Office  
P.O. Box 464  
Golden, Colorado 80402-0464

RECEIVED  
APR 26 1988  
PRESIDENTS OFFICE

Dear Mr. Whiteman:

The City of Broomfield has been notified of two NPDES permit violations from the Rocky Flats Plant in the last two months. The BOD discharge limit was violated in both instances. The high BODs were attributed to uncontrolled algae blooms in Pond B-3. This is a serious concern for the City because this water is eventually discharged into Great Western Reservoir.

Algae blooms can and do cause severe taste and odor problems in the treated drinking water. The cost of the additional carbon filtration to remove the taste and odor is extremely expensive and could be averted if the algae is controlled at the source.

The City has spent thousands of dollars on a boat and equipment to feed copper sulfate into the reservoir for algae control. Approximately \$5000 per year is spent for the algae control program on the chemicals alone. The discharges from Rocky Flats are counteracting our algae control program by loading nutrients and reseeding algae populations. With the low volume of water currently in Great Western Reservoir, the algae isn't being diluted and our continued efforts for algae control are futile if the discharge water from Rocky Flats continues to increase the algae populations.

An inquiry was made as to the type of algae control program used for the Rocky Flats ponds. The response from the plant staff was that no algae control program existed. This is outrageous considering the ponds have perfect conditions to promote excessive algae growth. The ponds are shallow providing good light penetration and they are full of nutrients. The algae obviously thrives under these conditions. The samples collected from the City's Walnut Creek sampling station have been thick and green with algae for over a month.

ADMIN RECORD

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The City wants a thorough investigation of these NPDES violations. The implementation of an effective algae control program would be relatively inexpensive for the small ponds and would prevent future NPDES violations of this nature. It would also provide greater protection for the City of Broomfield's drinking water supply.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Kochevar at 466-3104.

Sincerely,

*George Di Ciero*

George Di Ciero  
City Manager

cc: Marvin Thurber  
Dominick Sanchini  
Joan Sowinski

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